

2022 -- S 2531

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LC005076
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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2022

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A N A C T

RELATING TO BUSINESSES AND PROFESSIONS – SOLICITATION BY CHARITABLE ORGANIZATIONS

Introduced By: Senators DiMario, Lawson, Sosnowski, Anderson, Valverde, Kallman, and Cano

Date Introduced: March 01, 2022

Referred To: Senate Special Legislation and Veterans Affairs

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Chapter 5-53.1 of the General Laws entitled "Solicitation by Charitable
2 Organizations" is hereby amended by adding thereto the following section:

3 **5-53.1-19. Feminine hygiene product donation.**

4 (a) Any good faith donor of an apparently usable feminine hygiene product to a bona fide
5 charitable or nonprofit organization for free distribution to persons in need of the product is not
6 subject to criminal penalty for violation of unfair trade practice laws or civil damages arising from
7 the nature, age, packaging, or condition of an apparently usable feminine hygiene product.

8 (b) A bona fide charitable or nonprofit organization that in good faith receives an
9 apparently usable feminine hygiene product and distributes the product to persons in need is not
10 subject to criminal penalty for violation of unfair trade practice laws or civil damages arising from
11 the nature, age, packaging, or condition of an apparently usable feminine hygiene product.

12 (c) Subsections (a) and (b) of this section shall not apply when a good faith donor or bona
13 fide charitable or nonprofit organization's actions constitute gross negligence or intentional
14 misconduct that results in injury or death to a person who uses the apparently usable feminine
15 hygiene product.

16 (d) As used in this section:

17 (1) "Apparently usable" means that a product meets all quality and labeling standards
18 imposed by federal and state laws and regulations even if the product may not be readily

1 marketable.

2 (2) “Bona fide charitable or nonprofit organization” has the same meaning as “charitable
3 organization” as set forth in § 5-53.1-1.

4 (3) “Feminine hygiene product” means a product used for a female’s menstruation or other
5 genital-tract secretions, inclusive of tampons and sanitary napkins.

6 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon passage.

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EXPLANATION
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
OF

A N A C T

RELATING TO BUSINESSES AND PROFESSIONS – SOLICITATION BY CHARITABLE
ORGANIZATIONS

- 1 This act would allow feminine hygiene products to be donated by businesses to nonprofit
- 2 charities.
- 3 This act would take effect upon passage.

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